AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete Scheme 3 on pages 19 and 20, and insert the following scheme:

Scheme 3 Preferred Synthesis of Protected C-4 Methyl Carbonate Baccatin

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Additionally, please delete Scheme 3 (continued) on page 20, and insert the following scheme:

Scheme 3 continued

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Additionally, please amend page 21, line 14, as follows:
--of most preferably an acid chloride, (i.e., R¹-C(O)CI) chloroformate or, alternatively, acid anhydride is added to provide compound I directly.--